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Case Number: 200003723

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ACTION AID-01

INFO LOG-00 AF-01 AMAD-01 CA-02 OASY-00 EUR-01 OIGO-01  
FDRE-01 HA-09 TEDE-00 IO-16 ADS-00 OIC-02 RP-10  
SR-00 TRSE-00 FMP-00 /045W  
-----0FBC21 131543Z /38

P 131524Z DEC 93  
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5253  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 04 KIGALI 04395

GENEVA FOR RMA  
ROME FOR FODAG  
STATE PASS AID FOR OFDA AND EA

E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: PREF, EAID, RW, BY  
SUBJECT: BURUNDI REFUGEES: MSF/B PROPOSAL AND UPDATE

REFS: (A) STATE 367505, (B) ROME 21108  
- (C) GENEVA 11188

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1. SUMMARY. EMBASSY SUPPORTS PROPOSED GRANT FOR  
MSF/B ON UNDERSTANDING THAT OTHER NGO'S, INCLUDING  
CARE, MIGHT REQUEST SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING SHOULD THERE  
BE A SHORTFALL IN RESPONSE TO UNHCR'S APPEAL.  
UNHCR'S APPEAL IS BEING REVISED TO COVER SIX MONTHS  
INSTEAD OF THREE. NEW REFUGEES ARRIVED LATE  
NOVEMBER, BUT AFTER NDADAYE FUNERAL HCR REPORTS  
RENEWED HOPE AMONG REFUGEES FOR RETURN. DEATHS IN  
CAMPS STILL HIGH, BUT ACTIVITIES UNDERWAY IN WATER,

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L. MILLS  
DATE/CASE ID: 19 NOV 2002 200003723

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HEALTH AND SANITATION SHOULD SEE SITUATION TURN THE CORNER SOON. ASSURED FOOD OF SUFFICIENT QUANTITY AND QUALITY REMAINS LARGEST UNKNOWN AND COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT PROGRESS IN OTHER AREAS. BND SUMMARY.

MSF/B PROPOSAL  
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2. MISSION QPPORTS APPROVAL OF MSF/B'S REQUEST FOR USD 250,000 TO SUPPLEMENT ITS USD 2.9 MILLION PROJECT IN FAVOR OF 160,000 BURUNDI REFUGEES IN THE BUTARE PREFECTURE. FOLLOWING DISCUSSION WITH MSF/B REPRESENTATIVE AND UNHCR, WE ARE SATISFIED THAT THE FUNDING WILL NOT/NOT BE DUPLICATED BY OTHER FUNDING SOURCES AND THAT IT WILL BE APPLIED TO AREAS/ACTIVITIES THAT WOULD OTHERWISE BE UNCOVERED. ABOUT HALF THE REQUEST WILL GO TOWARD FUNDING 11 EXPATRIATE STAFF (DOCTORS, NURSES, LOGISTICIANS, AND SANITATION WORKERS). ALTHOUGH UNHCR SUPPORTS USE OF EXPATRIATES BY NGO'S, ITS POLICY DOES NOT/NOT PERMIT IT TO FUND EXPATRIATES. UNHCR REASONS THAT NGO'S SHOULD FIND PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE OVERHEAD

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COSTS FROM THEIR OWN GOVERNMENTS OR ELSEWHERE RATHER THAN FROM UNHCR'S SCARCE RESOURCES. MSF/B ANTICIPATES SOME SUPPORT FOR STAFF COSTS FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATION (ECHO), BUT IT DOES NOT EXPECT ECHO WILL FUND ALL 30 OF THE EXPATRIATES INVOLVED IN ITS ASSISTANCE PROJECT (WHO SUPERVISE 500 LOCAL EMPLOYEES, INCLUDING DAY LABORERS). SIMILARLY, ITS REQUESTS FOR TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT CANNOT BE ADEQUATELY SUPPORTED BY UNHCR OR ECHO.

3. MSF/B'S PERFORMANCE TO DATE HAS BEEN IMPRESSIVE. MSF/B IS PROVIDING CURATIVE CARE, VACCINATIONS, THERAPEUTIC FEEDING, AND IN CONJUNCTION WITH CARE INTERNATIONAL AND OXFAM, WATER AND SANITATION IN 6 CAMPS SERVING 160,000 REFUGEES. CHARGE VISITED CAMPS MSF/B IS SERVICING IN MID-NOVEMBER, JUST AT COMPLETION OF VACCINATION CAMPAIGN. HOSPITAL FACILITIES, WITH SEPARATE WARD FOR DYSENTERY PATIENTS, WERE IN PLANNING STAGE. STAFF WERE

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ORGANIZING LIVING ACCOMMODATIONS IN COMMUNAL BUILDINGS NEAR CAMP SITES. A HEADQUARTERS VISITOR WAS ON SITE AT TIME OF CHARGE VISIT. MSF/B ACKNOWLEDGED THAT DEATH RATES IN THE CAMPS HAVE NOT/NOT IMPROVED OVER THE 1-2/10,000 OF MID-NOVEMBER. THEY ARE HOPEFUL, HOWEVER, THAT AS WATER SYSTEMS NOW BEING INSTALLED ARE IN PLACE, WHEN THE GERRYCANS AND SOAP ORDERED BY UNHCR ARRIVE, AND WHEN THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION ATTAINS THE NEWLY APPROVED LEVEL OF 1,900 (UP FROM 1,400) KCALS/DAY, REDUCED RATES WILL BEGIN TO BE APPARENT. UNHCR TOLD CHARGE

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THAT ITS ASSESSMENT IS THAT MSF/B IS DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB.

4. FYI. AFTER THE RECENT ECHO/UNHCR JOINT VISIT TO KIGALI TO LOOK INTO NEEDS OF REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS, UNHCR REQUESTED ALL NGOS THAT HAD SUBMITTED SEPARATE FUNDING PROPOSALS TO THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS TO RESUBMIT SINGLE PROPOSALS CHanneled THROUGH UNHCR. UNHCR WILL THEN SUBMIT THE PROPOSALS TO ECHO. ECHO WILL FUND WHAT IT CAN, UNHCR WILL FUND WHAT IT CAN. THE REST WILL GO UNCOVERED UNLESS OTHER

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INFO	LOG-00	AF-01	AMAD-01	CA-02	OASY-00	EUR-01	OIGO-01
	FDRE-01	HA-09	TEDE-00	IO-16	ADS-00	OIC-02	RP-10
	SR-00	TRSE-00	FMP-00	/045W			

-----10821B 150850Z /38

P 131524Z DEC 93  
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5254  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

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AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
AMEMBASSY ROME

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 8)

GENEVA FOR RMA  
ROME FOR FODAG  
STATE PASS AID FOR OFDA AND EA

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OUTSIDE SOURCES CAN BE FOUND. END FYI.  
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NEW APPEAL COMING  
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5. UNHCR HAS DECIDED TO EXTEND ITS EMERGENCY PROJECT FOR BURUNDI REFUGEES FROM THREE TO SIX MONTHS. HEADQUARTERS IS IN THE PROCESS OF PREPARING ANOTHER APPEAL BASED ON SUBMISSIONS FROM THE FIELD. UNHCR/KIGALI HAS SUBMITTED A BUDGET FROM THE FIELD FOR USD 12 MILLION FOR THE SIX-MONTH PERIOD. THIS DECISION IS BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE REFUGEES ARE NOT GOING HOME ANY TIME SOON.

NUMBERS  
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6. UNHCR EMERGENCY COORDINATOR FBDDE GROOT TOLD CHARGE THAT 7,000 NEW REFUGEES FLED INTO THE BUTARE PREFECTURE AT THE END OF NOVEMBER, JUST AFTER THE GOVERNOR OF KIRUNDO WAS KILLED. HE SAID ANOTHER 2,000 ARRIVED IN CYANGUGU THE SAME WEEK. THE LATTER, HE SAID, WERE MOSTLY STUDENTS AND CIVIL SERVANTS, SOME FROM AS FAR AWAY AS BUJUMBURA. HE DESCRIBED THIS LATTER TREND AS DISTURBING.

7. GROOT REPORTED THAT UNHCR FIELD OFFICER AND NGO WORKERS REPORTED A HIGH LEVEL OF LETHARGY AND APATHY

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IN THE CAMPS AT THE END OF NOVEMBER. AN EXAMPLE, HE SAID, WAS THAT REFUGEES WERE NOT TAKING THEIR MEDICATIONS NOR WERE THEY GIVING PRESCRIBED MEDICATIONS TO THEIR CHILDREN. HE SPECULATED THAT THE TRAUMAS THEY HAD EXPERIENCED MAY HAVE RESULTED IN RESIGNATION.

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8. UNHCR REP RODRIGUEZ TOLD CHARGE 12/10 THAT THE MOOD IN THE CAMPS MIGHT BE CHANGING FOR THE BETTER, AUGURING WELL FOR RETURN EARLIER THAN PREVIOUSLY ANTICIPATED. HE SAID THE REFUGEES HAD FOLLOWED CLOSELY FUNERAL CEREMONIES FOR PRESIDENT NDADAYE AND THE AFTERMATH. THEY SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGED BY THE ABSENCE OF VIOLENCE. FURTHER, HE SAID UN/ASYG JAMES JONAH, WHO VISITED RWANDA AND CALLED ON PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA FOLLOWING THE FUNERAL, HAD CARRIED A MESSAGE FROM THE BURUNDI GOVERNMENT. REPORTEDLY JONAH ASKED THE PRESIDENT TO HAVE THE GOVERNMENT IN EXILE IN KIGALI RETURN TO BURUNDI AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO BOOST CONFIDENCE AMONG THE POPULATION BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY.

#### ASSISTANCE SECTORS

9. WATER, SANITATION, AND HEALTH SECTORS ARE BEGINNING TO COME TOGETHER, ACCORDING TO GROOT. HE SAID THE WATER SUPPLY IS INCREASING LITTLE BY LITTLE. WHERE 7-10 LITRES ARE BEING PROVIDED, THE REFUGEE ARE USING LESS. LACK OF GERRYCANS, ORDERED FROM NAIROBI, IS A SERIOUS PROBLEM. UNHCR REACHED AGREEMENT WITH CARE INTERNATIONAL AT A MEETING IN GENEVA IN LATE NOVEMBER ON A STRATEGY THAT WOULD EMPHASIZE TECHNOLOGIES OFFERING MEDIUM TERM SOLUTIONS AND USE TANKERING ONLY AS A LAST RESORT. CARE AND OXFAM (BRITISH) HAVE SURVEYED SITES TO DETERMINE WHICH TECHNOLOGIES ARE BEST SUITED FOR EACH SITE AND WHICH AGENCY IS BEST SUITED TO PROVIDE THAT

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TECHNOLOGY.

10. THE MAJOR HEALTH PROBLEM REMAINS DYSENTERY. TO COUNTERACT THE APATHY OF THE REFUGEES, MSF NURSES ADOPTED A STRATEGY OF HOME VISITS, VISITING EVERY HUT ONCE A DAY, IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY SICK PEOPLE IN EARLY STAGES OF DISEASE AND PROVIDE PROMPT TREATMENT. SANITATION IS EXPECTED TO IMPROVE WITH INSTALLATION BY EARLY DECEMBER OF SUFFICIENT LATRINES FOR 1/100 REFUGEES IN EVERY CAMP.

FOOD STILL A PROBLEM  
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INFO	LOG-00	AF-01	AMAD-01	CA-02	OASY-00	EUR-01	OIGO-01
	FDRE-01	HA-09	TEDE-00	IO-16	ADS-00	OIC-02	RP-10
	SR-00	TRSE-00	FMP-00	/045W			

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P 131524Z DEC 93  
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5255  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
AMEMBASSY ROME

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (RIGHT HAND MARGIN)

GENEVA FOR RMA  
ROME FOR FODAG  
STATE PASS AID FOR OFDA AND EA

E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: PREF, EAID, RW, BY

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SUBJECT: BURUNDI REFUGEES: MSF/B PROPOSAL AND UPDATE

11. UNHCR EXPRESSED TO CHARGE AND USAID DIRECTOR

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SERIOUS CONCERN OVER THE FOOD SECTOR. GROOT SAID THE QUANTITY WAS INSUFFICIENT, THE QUALITY INADEQUATE, AND THE PIPELINE UNASSURED. NUTRITION SURVEYS SHOWED MALNUTRITION RATES WERE UP TO 15 PERCENT FOR CHILDREN UNDER FIVE. CONSEQUENTLY, ALL NGOS ARE BECOMING INVOLVED IN SUPPLEMENTARY FEEDING, USING DSM, SUGAR, AND HIGH PROTEIN BISCUITS. HE ASKED OUR HELP WITH WFP TO PUT FOOD ASSISTANCE ON TRACK.

12. SUBSEQUENT TO THIS CONVERSATION, WFP AGREED TO RAISE THE RATION QUANTITY FROM KCAL 1,400 TO 1,900. MSF/B ADVISED CHARGE, HOWEVER, THAT IT WILL TAKE SOME TIME FOR THIS DECISION TO BECOME OPERATIONAL AT THE FIELD LEVEL. (WFP DIRECTOR TOLD HARGE IT HAD TAKEN FOUR DAYS FOR NEWS OF THE INCREASE TO REACH HIM: SOMEONE IN ROME WAS SICK|)

13. COMMENT: DESPITE WFP ASSURANCES TO UNHCR (REFS B AND C), UNHCR AND EMBASSY/AID REMAIN CONCERNED ABOUT THE MIX OF FOOD IN THE RATION AND THE PIPELINE. USAID CAUTIONED THAT ADDITIONAL CALORIES ARE OFTEN ADDED BY ADDING OIL, WHICH IS NOT PART OF THE LOCAL DIET IN THE BEST OF TIMES: DONATED OIL IS IN PLENTIFUL SUPPLY ON THE LOCAL MARKET.

14. COMMENT CONTINUED: EMBASSY/USAID ARE ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT FOOD QUANTITIES IN THE PIPELINE. PRIME MINISTER UWILINGIMANA SUMMONED DONORS TO A MEETING 12/13 TO APPEAL FOR HELP IN ESTABLISHING FOOD SECURITY FOR RWANDA, WHICH HAS BEEN AGGRAVATED BY DISPLACED, REFUGEES AND DROUGHT. EMBASSY/USAID ARE

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CONCERNED THAT FOOD BORROWED BY WFP FOR THE BURUNDI REFUGEES IN THE SOUTH MAY NOT BE REPLACED BY THE TIME IT IS REQUIRED FOR THE DISPLACED IN THE NORTH. UNHCR

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ADVISED THAT LOCAL OFFICIALS IN THE BUTARE PREFECTURE CAUTIONED THAT IF LOCAL PEOPLE AFFECTED BY DROUGHT ARE HUNGRY, THEY WILL FIND IT DIFFICULT TO LET FOOD TRUCKS FOR THE REFUGEE PASS. ANY RUPTURE IN THE PIPELINE FOR ANY OF THESE GROUPS (IN FACT, THERE IS NO COMMITMENT OF FOOD FOR DROUGHT VICTIMS), COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE ENTIRE PEACE PROCESS. END COMMENT.

15. FYI. USAID IS PREPARING A CABLE ANALYZING THE FOOD SITUATION IN RWANDA WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION. IT SHOULD BE OUT BY THE END OF THE WEEK. END FYI.

COMMENT  
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16. UNHCR'S NEW MECHANISMS ALLOWING IT TO HAVE STAFF ON THE SPOT ONCE AN EMERGENCY BREAKS PENDING RECRUITMENT AND ASSIGNMENT OF LONGER-TERM EMERGENCY WORKERS HAS WORKED EXCEEDINGLY WELL HERE IN RWANDA. PERMANENT STAFF ARE NOW BEGINNING TO REPLACE PERSONS BORROWED FROM OTHER UNHCR POSTS AND FROM THE UK AND NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCILS. THIS HAS MADE A HUGE DIFFERENCE IN ORGANIZATION AND COORDINATION WITH THE NGOS WHO, FORTUITOUSLY, WERE IN THE PROCESS OF WINDING DOWN THEIR PROGRAMS FOR THE DISPLACED IN THE NORTH.

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17. TIME IS REQUIRED TO PUT THE COMPLEX OF ASSISTANCE INTERVENTIONS -- FOOD, WATER, SANITATION, AND HEALTH -- INTO PLACE IN ORDER TO SEE SIGNIFICANT DROPS IN DEATH RATES AND MALNUTRITION LEVELS. IT IS EMBASSY'S IMPRESSION THAT, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE FOOD SECTOR, THE OTHER SECTORS ARE COMING TOGETHER IN THE SHORTEST TIME POSSIBLE. HOWEVER, UNLESS THE FOOD SECTOR IS ADEQUATELY UNDER CONTROL, THE OTHER SECTORS CANNOT ALONE HAVE THE DESIRED IMPACT. DEPARTMENT AND AID WILL NEED TO MOVE QUICKLY ONCE USAID MAKES ITS RECOMMENDATIONS IF WE ARE TO AVOID A BREAK IN THE PIPELINE.

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	SR-00	TRSE-00	FMP-00	/045W			

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P 131524Z DEC 93  
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5256  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 04 KIGALI 04395

GENEVA FOR RMA  
ROME FOR FODAG  
STATE PASS AID FOR OFDA AND EA

E.O. 12356: N/A  
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....."COMPLETE IN THREE SECTIONS".....

LEADER

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